



OFFICIAL SELECTION  
**COMPETITION**  
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

SPUTNIK, PYRAMIDE PRODUCTIONS AND PANDORA FILM PRESENT

**ANDRÉ  
WILMS**

**KATI  
OUTINEN**

**JEAN-PIERRE  
DARROUSSIN**

**BLONDIN  
MIGUEL**

# LE HAVRE

a film by  
**Aki Kaurismäki**



## PRODUCTIONS

### Sputnik Oy

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sputnik@sputnik.fi

### Pyramide Productions

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production@pyramidefilms.com  
www.pyramide-productions.com

### Pandora Film

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www.pandorafilm.com



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## INTERNATIONAL SALES

### The Match Factory GmbH

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In Cannes  
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## FESTIVALS

### Finnish Film Foundation

Kanavakatu 12  
00160 Helsinki  
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### Wolfgang W. Werner Public Relations

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## FRENCH DISTRIBUTION

### Pyramide Distribution

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distribution@pyramidefilms.com  
programmation@pyramidefilms.com

SPUTNIK, PYRAMIDE PRODUCTIONS AND PANDORA FILM PRESENT

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**Aki Kaurismäki**

**RUNNING TIME : 1H33**





e Havre S.N.C.F.

Quais

# SYNOPSIS

*Marcel Marx, a former author and a well-known Bohemian, has retreated into a voluntary exile in the port city of Le Havre, where he feels he has reached a closer rapport with the people serving them in the occupation of the honourable, but not too profitable, of a shoe-shiner. He has buried his dreams of a literary breakthrough and lives happily within the triangle of his favourite bar, his work, and his wife Arletty, when fate suddenly throws in his path an underage immigrant refugee from the darkest Africa.*

*As Arletty at the same time gets seriously ill and is bedridden, Marcel once more has to rise against the cold wall of human indifference with his only weapon of innate optimism and the unwavering solidarity of the people of his quartier, but against him stands the whole blind machinery of the Western constitutionally governed state, this time represented by the dragnet of the police, moment by moment drawing closer around the refugee boy.*

*It's time for Marcel to polish his shoes and reveal his teeth.*



# **DIRECTOR'S WORDS**

**by Aki Kaurismäki**

*The European cinema has not much addressed the continuously worsening financial, political, and above all, moral crisis that has led to the ever-unsolved question of refugees; refugees trying to find their way into the EU from abroad, and their irregular, often substandard treatment.*

*I have no answer to this problem, but I still wanted to deal with the matter in this anyhow unrealistic film.*







Interview with  
**Aki Kaurismäki**  
by Christine Masson



**Where did the idea for LE HAVRE come from? Is it coming from the more and more terrible situation of people escaping from their home countries? Or did you simply want to make another film in France?**

The idea I had for some years, but I didn't know where to shoot it. Basically the story could happen almost in any European country, except maybe Vatican, or then especially there. Most logical places would of course have been Greece, Italy and Spain because they carry the heaviest pressure caused by the problem (to say it mildly). Anyhow I drove through the whole seafront from Genoa to Holland and found what I wanted from the City of blues and soul and rock'n roll, Le Havre.

**In France our motto is "Liberté, égalité, fraternité". It seems the one you kept is Fraternité, brotherhood?**

The other two were always too optimistic. But fraternité you can find anywhere, even in France!

**This "brotherhood" between the people of the fishermen's quartier in Le Havre save the young boy, but it does not exist anymore in real life, does it?**

I certainly hope it does, otherwise we are already living in that ant society, which Ingmar Bergman often mentioned coming next.

**I have got the feeling that more violent the situation becomes in the world, the more you keep faith in mankind. Have you turned desperately optimistic?**

I have always preferred the version of the fairy tale, where Little Red Riding Hood eats the wolf and not opposite, but in real life I prefer wolves to the pale men of Wall Street.

**Have you met immigrants to write your story?**

No, but in other occasions, of course.

**To symbolize this immigration you have chosen a young boy from Africa. Is youth the icon of hope?**

There are no symbols in my films, but in general I trust



youngsters more than people like me. Which isn't too much, yet. At least I trust Blondin Miguel, the actor of the boy, without limits.

**With this film you widened your family of actors. Jean-Pierre Darroussin for example. However we have the feeling, that he has always been a part of the family.**

Of course he has been around, but I haven't let him act before, just clean the studio in the evenings etc.

**Is it a challenge to direct French actors?**

Just a privilege.

**As with LA VIE DE BOHÈME you seem to look for eternal and unchanging post-war France of the 50's. Are you nostalgic for this period?**

I'm just a bit slow. Modern architecture hurts my eyes. But 70's start to look stylish already...here and there. Luckily there is always yesterday.



***Same with your cinematographic references, Bresson, Becker, Melville, Tati, René Clair, Marcel Carné? Each of them seem to be a little bit in your film.***

I certainly hope so, because I didn't bring anything myself... I studied some films of Marcel Carné, but couldn't steel much without jumping from semi-realistic fairy tale to a serious melodrama.

***From the French culture you have also picked up a singer, Little Bob, who acts in this movie. Is he for you a real musical reference?***

Le Havre is the Memphis, Tennessee of France and Little Bob a.k.a. Roberto Piazza is the Elvis of this Kingdom as long as Johnny Hallyday stays in Paris and even then it would be a nice fight.

***Did you make the film you had in mind with LE HAVRE?***

More or less, I hope...





# FILMOGRAPHY

## of Aki Kaurismäki

Writer, director, editor and producer.  
Born 4.4.1957

### films as director :

- 1981** **SAIMAA GESTURE** (co-dir. with Mika Kaurismäki)
- 1983** **CRIME AND PUNISHMENT**
- 1985** **CALAMARI UNION**
- 1986** **SHADOWS IN PARADISE**  
**ROCKY VI** (short)
- 1987** **HAMLET GOES BUSINESS**  
**THRU THE WIRE** (short)  
**RICH LITTLE BITCH** (short)
- 1988** **ARIEL**  
**L.A. WOMAN** (short)
- 1989** **LENINGRAD COWBOYS GO AMERICA**  
**DIRTY HANDS** (TV film)  
**THE MATCH FACTORY GIRL**  
**I HIRED A CONTRACT KILLER**
- 1990** **I HIRED A CONTRACT KILLER**
- 1991** **LA VIE DE BOHEME**  
**THOSE WERE THE DAYS** (short)
- 1992** **THESE BOOTS** (short)
- 1993** **TOTAL BALALAIKA SHOW - HELSINKI CONCERT** (doc.)  
**TAKE CARE OF YOUR SCARF, TATJANA**  
**LENINGRAD COWBOYS MEET MOSES**
- 1996** **DRIFTING CLOUDS**
- 1999** **JUHA**
- 2002** **DOGS HAVE NO HELL** (short)  
**THE MAN WITHOUT A PAST**
- 2004** **BICO** (short)
- 2006** **LIGHTS IN THE DUSK**
- 2007** **THE FOUNDRY** (short)
- 2011** **LE HAVRE**



# CAST

Marcel Marx **ANDRÉ WILMS**

Arletty **KATI OUTINEN**

Monet **JEAN-PIERRE DARROUSSIN**

Idrissa **BLONDIN MIGUEL**

Claire **ELINA SALO**

Yvette **EVELYNE DIDI**

Chang **QUOC-DUNG NGUYEN**

Laika **LAIKA**

Grocer **FRANÇOIS MONNIÉ**

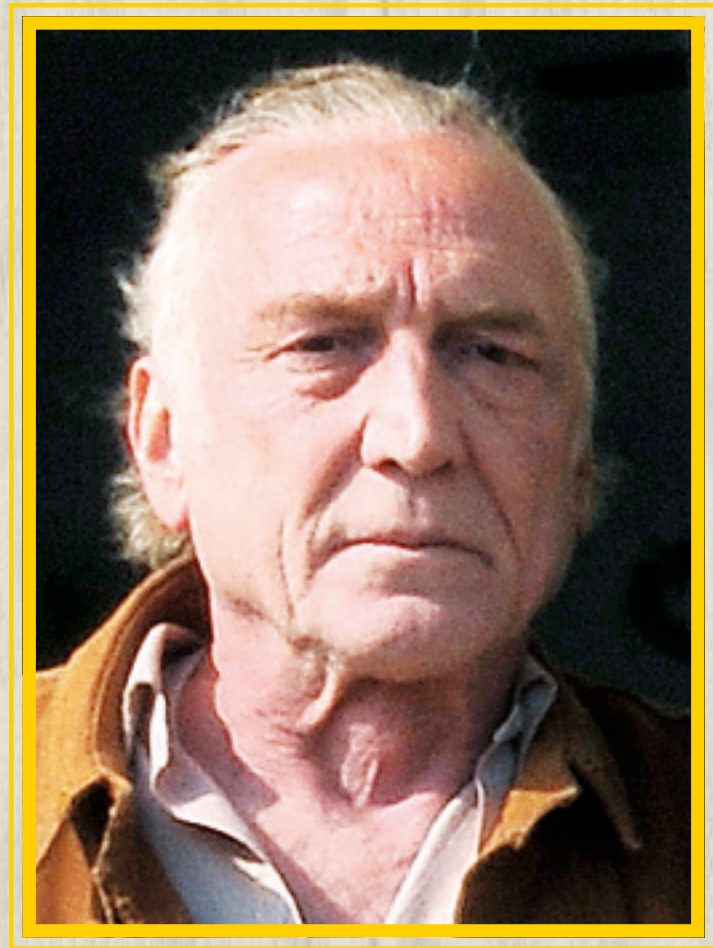
Little Bob **ROBERTO PIAZZA**

Doctor Becker **PIERRE ÉTAIX**

Denouncer **JEAN-PIERRE LÉAUD**

**André Wilms**

*is*



**Marcel Marx**



**Kati Outinen**

*is*



***Arletty***

**Jean-Pierre Darroussin**

*is*



***Monet***



**Blondin Miguel**

*is*



***Idrissa***



***Laika***

*a canine actress of 5th generation.*



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Production  
**SPUTNIK**  
**PYRAMIDE PRODUCTIONS**  
**PANDORA FILM**

With co-production  
**ARTE France Cinéma**  
**ZDF/Arte**

With participation of  
**The Finnish Film Foundation**  
**CANAL +**  
**Nordisk Film & TV Fond**  
**The Centre National du Cinéma**  
**et de l'Image animée**  
**YLE Coproductions**  
**CINÉCINÉMA**  
**ARTE France**  
**The Région Haute-Normandie**

Written, directed and produced by  
**Aki Kaurismäki**  
Assistant director and Casting  
**Gilles Charmant**  
Cinematography  
**Timo Salminen**  
Gaffer  
**Olli Varja**  
Sound  
**Tero Malmberg**  
Set design  
**Wouter Zoon**  
Wardrobe  
**Fred Cambier**  
Make-up  
**Valérie Théry-Hamel**  
Editing  
**Timo Linnasalo**  
Location manager  
**Claire Langmann**  
Production managers  
**Rémi Pradinas and Mark Lwoff**  
Line producers  
**Stéphane Parthenay and Hanna Hemilä**  
Executive producers  
**Fabienne Vonier and Reinhard Brundig**

Length 93 mn - 35 mm - 1:85 - color - Dolby SRD

2nd Assistant director  
LUCAS LOUBARESE  
3rd Assistant director, casting extras  
RENAUD GAST  
Continuity, still photography  
MALLA HUKKANEN  
1st Assistant Camera  
MIKA AILASMÄKI  
2nd Assistant Camera  
ANNE VAHLSTEN  
Grip  
KALLE PENTTILÄ  
Best boy  
VILLE VÄÄNÄNEN  
Electrician  
ÉRIC GARZENA, CYRIL DUPONT  
Crane Operator  
LAZAR ABDELKEBIR  
Boom Operator  
BENJAMIN LAURENT  
Synchronization Sound  
KONSTA HORMIA  
Assistant Synchronization Sound  
IISAKKI HORMIA  
Sound Mixing  
OLLI PÄRNÄNEN, Meguru Film  
1st Assistant Art Director  
THOMAS PITRE  
2nd Assistant Art Director  
POMME DELÉPINE  
Props Master  
IRENEUSZ (IREK) SPIEWAK  
Construction manager  
GÉRARD SIMONET  
Carpenter  
JEAN-CLAUDE GUILLEMAN  
SÉBASTIEN GALLIEN  
Head Painter  
PASCAL COURTINEL  
Sculptor  
LAURENT THÉVENOT  
Wardrobe  
CLARA LYONNET  
Wardrobe Assistant  
DIANE WEHRLY  
Trainer of Miss Laika  
PAULA OINONEN  
Coach, Blondin Miguel  
ÉLISE PRADINAS  
Casting, children  
ELSA PHARAON  
Casting Assistant, children  
JEAN ENINGER

Location Assistant  
AUGUSTIN WERKOFF  
2nd Location Assistant  
GUILLAUME MOINARD  
MARINE LONGUET  
Location Trainee  
PAULINE REICHENBACH  
YOANN LE GRUIEC  
Additional Location Assistance  
AGNÈS FANGET  
STÉPHANIE JOSSEC  
FRANK LESNIAK  
FRÉDÉRIC SIBEUD  
THIBAUT SPIRAL  
MATHIEU RAAB  
Driver  
LUCIEN LEFÈBVRE  
Production Translator  
IRMELI DEBARLE  
Translator  
MIKKO LYYTIKÄINEN

Catering  
ÈVE BRUANT  
FINLAND PRODUCTION  
Production Coordinator  
HAJJE TULOKAS  
Production Secretary  
EEVI KAREINEN  
Post-production Secretary  
KIRSI HATARA  
Accountant  
HEIKKI KESKINEN

FRANCE PRODUCTION  
Production Coordinator  
VALÉRIE FARTHOUAT  
Legal  
PHILIPPE LÉCONTE  
Production Assistant  
ANNE BERJON  
Production Secretary  
FANETTE MARTINIE  
Production Trainee  
LOUISE LEHEC

GERMANY PRODUCTION  
Associate Producer  
KARL BAUMGARTNER  
Accountant  
RAINER TEUSNER  
Secretaries  
VIOLA FÜGEN  
CAMELIA FÖRSTER



